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East Indies. - E. I. Co. Army
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The Queries Answered;

OR

OBSERVATIONS

UPON

“THE POINTS,

SUBMITTED

BY A PERSONAGE OF HIGH RANK,

FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN OFFICERS
OF THE HONORABLE COMPANY'S SERVICE,

NOW IN INDIA.”



“I ORDAINED, THAT THE RIGHT OF THE WARRIOR SHOULD NOT BE INJURED; AND THAT
“ THE SOLDIER WHO HAD GROWN IN YEARS, SHOULD NOT BE DEPRIVED OF HIS STATION
“ OR HIS WAGES; AND THAT THE ACTIONS OF THE SOLDIER SHOULD NOT BE SUPPRESSED.—
“ FOR THOSE MEN WHO SELL THEIR PERMANENT HAPPINESS FOR PERISHABLE HONOR, MERIT
“ COMPENSATION, AND ARE WORTHY OF REWARD AND ENCOURAGEMENT.”

INSTITUTES OF TIMOUR, [DAVY'S TRANSLATION,] BOOK II. PAGE 177.

— CALCUTTA : —

1794.

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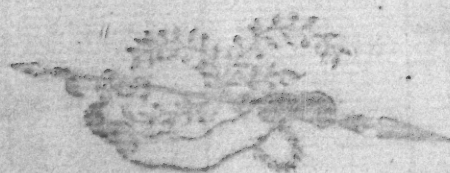
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FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN OFFICERS



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1. I obtained, that the right of the laborer should not be infringed, and that the soldier who had worked in the field should not be deprived of his share of the wages; and that the status of the soldier should not be deteriorated — for those men who sell their services to the Government for small honor, merit, or distinction, are not to be regarded as slaves and free citizens.

CHICAGO

Warren Hastings Esquire -
From the Calcutta Committee.

THAT the members of a community, individually or collectively, cannot be denied the right, not only to petition for the concession of just claims and protest against apprehended injury, but to appeal to their fellow subjects for countenance and support, the immutable dictates of natural equity loudly proclaim, and the existing Laws of our Country expressly declare.

THE sentiments delivered in the following answers to the queries of our late commander in chief, are submitted to the consideration and revision of the Bengal Officers;—sentiments, which it was vainly hoped, would never have been drawn forth by any act of the noble author of these propositions, from whose gratitude and well known influence was long and fondly expected a very dif-

different

ferent remuneration—an honorable acknowledgement of the merits he had so frequently witnessed, and an adequate reward of the talents by which his fame has been so gloriously raised.

THESE Queries may have one good effect, which they were not originally intended to produce: —They will convince incredulity itself, that all the hopes so long held out from the believed kindness of him, who was served by this Army, with a zeal seldom equalled and never surpassed, are fallacious and vain; and that so long as his Lordship's opinions shall have decisive weight, we must rely on our own vigilance, good conduct and unanimity, as our best and most confidential friends.

THE removal of Colonels from the command of European battalions — The not having consulted any Engineer or Artillery Officers upon propositions which involve the future welfare of these bodies — The queries “Whether the command of a native battalion should confer a higher rank than that of Captain, — and what part of their actual pay should be granted to Officers on furlough?” sufficiently display the

ungenerous

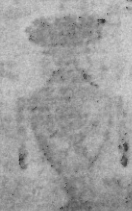
ungenerous calculations on which any system of the Noble Marquis may be expected to rest; but! his proposing the abolition of double full batta, to the Madras Officers, who have never received it, and only to such staff Officers in Bengal as are out of the way of benefitting by its continuance, is an artifice utterly unworthy of the great character who has practised it.

THE Marquis Cornwallis has now resigned his Government, and his acts are open to public discussion—happy are we in the conviction, that his imperious habits of thinking have not descended to his successors, but that in their talents and their virtues we have a full security, that any new system which may be hereafter recommended from this country, will be suggested and guided by that justice and humanity which have ever been found inseparable from true policy.



in the system of the
Notary Public, which has
propose the abolition of the
Madras Office, who have received it and
only to the fact Office in India as an out-
of the way of looking by its continuance, is an
little of the utility of the great character
which is attached to it.

The Madras Office, which has not retained his
Government, and which is now to public dis-
cussion, is now in the hands of the
his numerous friends of the Government, who do
Xended to his successors but still in their hands
and their virtues we have a full security, that any
new system which may be hereafter recommended
from this country, will be suggested and guided
by that justice and humanity which have ever
been found inseparable from true policy.





" MEMORANDUM of points for consideration upon the supposition that all the Company's Troops, both European and Native, are to be taken into the King's Service; and looking upon it as a principle, that not only a considerable facility should be given to Officers, and to worn-out and disabled European Soldiers, to return to Europe; but even their settling for life in India, should be as much as possible discouraged."

OBSERVATIONS.

IF, by "taking all the Company's Troops both European and Native into the King's service" were only meant, that King's Commissions alone should in future be granted to the present Company's officers, no change but of Names would take place.

THE Company's Officers and Soldiers are the Servants of the State as well as of the Company, and the maritime powers of Europe, while at war with Great Britain, have with the same spirit attacked the Company's territories and trade, as the ships and colonies of the mother country; ---- on every such occasion, the Company's Troops have manifested a readiness and gallantry not inferior to the most loyal of his Majesty's subjects; to call them therefore King's or Company's troops can be but of little moment.

BUT if a real incorporation, so as to render all the armies of the empire one body, without any distinction of its parts, excepting such as local circumstances render unavoidable, be intended, and that this change is not meant to be effected by improper and unjust means, then an *indispensible preliminary step* must be the organizing the different corps of the Company's army, thro' all their parts, on exactly the same principle as his Majesty's; that is, previous to the union, the same rank shall be given to Engineer Officers, the Commandants of Brigades, Regiments, Battalions, and Companies, of Artillery or Cavalry, and Infantry, European or Native, and the same number of European officers, and of the same rank, posted to these bodies in the Company's service, that are found necessary for those of similar strength in the Royal Army: --- In proposing this, the Company's officers demand nothing that when granted can with propriety be called a Concession, or taken into the account as such on the present occasion; for it is a measure which already stands recommended strongly both by Justice and Policy, and they confidently expect the full adoption of it, whether the proposed incorporation take place or not.

THE settling of European Officers and Soldiers in the country, needs but little discouragement---no one leaves Europe with the intention of ending his life in India---and very few acquire the wish from residence and habit; some however do, whose early affections have been alienated by a long and inevitable exile, and the consequent extinction, or oblivion of their European friends and relations; and others have upon trial found a Northern climate too cold for constitutions debilitated by the long continued influence of a tropical Sun; ---to tear these descriptions of men, unaccused and even unsuspected, from all that life has yet of promise, would be a species of cruelty, of which all the principles of English law are utterly abhorrent ---and which no remote and imaginary state necessity can be allowed to justify: --- the duty of a wise government is not to deny the power but to obviate the wish; ---let it then put the Military service upon such a footing, that every one who enters it, may hope within a reasonable time to revisit his Native country, without being exposed to indigence; let it allow Furlough on full pay to such a number of Officers as the duties of peace can always spare; let it grant annuities proportionate to rank and length of service to those who after certain periods may wish to retire, and few---very few indeed,--- will be inclined to finish their career in a clime so hostile to European health and comfort.



Does

QUERY *Does it occur that any material difficulty would be found*
1. *in the incorporation of the Company's Artillery and Engineers,*
with those branches of the King's Service; or in relieving those
Corps regularly in future from Woolwich?

ANSWER *This difficulty---a very material one, occurs---that pro-*
bably his Majesty's, and certainly the Company's Officers,
will feel an insuperable aversion to being superseded by a
mutual interchange between lines originally distinct, which
both at first chose, according to their respective motives and
expectations.

THE public service also will suffer greatly by reliefs
from Woolwich;---the Officers of the British Engineers will
be unable to direct the Natives of India in carrying on works
or buildings of any kind---and must be in almost complete
ignorance of the easiest and cheapest mode of procuring ma-
terials, whether for a siege, carrying on field works, or the
erection of public buildings:--- can the single arm of the
Engineer throw up a redoubt? or does a work of that
Nature require the united efforts of the people under him?
their hands are tied unless he has a sufficient knowledge of
their language, to apply them to the work he wishes to carry
on, and direct them in the execution of it.

THE newly arrived Artillery Officers also, as well as
their Serjeants, Corporals, and Artificers, will be in the
same helpless condition, for want of the power to explain
themselves

themselves to the Lascars, Bullock-drivers, Artificers, Coolies, and other natives employed in this branch of the service.

A STILL more decisive objection against the frequent reliefs of Artillery or Infantry, from Europe, independent of the immense expence, is, that men who have not been previously seasoned to this climate cannot be brought even opposite to their enemies.

THIS has been often experienced in the case of his Majesty's Regiments, who have been sent upon service when recently landed in this country; but the weak and unserviceable state of the two companies of the Royal Artillery which marched against Seringapatam, under the most favorable circumstances—is a late and well known instance.

THEY never made a forced march, nor ever manned a battery—they were never exposed to the sun, nor suffered from want; yet in four months were reduced to one third of their original number: —

THE utmost gallantry and ardour of spirit have no power to counteract the deadly influence of this climate upon those who are doomed to suffer it, unprepared.

Vide Appendix

[A]



Should it be finally resolved upon to transfer the Artillery to his Majesty's service, it should be considered as inseparably attached to this Country & called the Royal Bengal Artillery — the case of the Royal Irish Artillery affords a precedent exactly in point — The same mode should be observed with regard to the Corps of Engineers

QUERY
II

It is to be supposed, that the Company's European Infantry, when formed into Regiments, will be numbered from the youngest of the King's present establishment; and adverting to the number of King's Regiments now in India, as well as to the state of the Company's European Infantry, how many Regiments should be formed from the Company's twelve battalions?

ANSWER

THIS is a supposition which cannot be allowed to be made, previous to the Company's troops being organised like his Majesty's.

First,— FOR the reasons adduced in the instructions sent for the guidance of the Representative Committee in England.

Secondly,— BECAUSE it implies that two or more Battalions are meant to be formed into one Regiment, and that consequently several Officers, perhaps one half of their present complement, will become Supernumerary, and may either be thrown upon the native corps, to the supercession of its immediate Officers, or probably be put upon his Majesty's half-pay establishment.

And lastly,---BECAUSE, in article the sixth it is said—
“ to be intended to be made an established rule to relieve
“ the European Corps frequently;” from which, and from
their being “ numbered from the youngest of the King's
“ present

“ present Regiments” it would follow, that after rewarding a man for twenty-five years service in an unfriendly clime, by a commission whose exact value is £.1200 Sterling, he may be first transported to the West-Indies or America; and next, by a new administration, or the disbandment of his Corps, be reduced to ninety pounds a year,—a Captain’s half-pay, —for the remainder of his life.

HIS long absence too from Europe must necessarily have kept him a stranger to all those who could obtain his readmission, or push him forward in his new service; and thus would the door to advancement in the only profession of which he can be supposed to have a knowledge, be for ever closed upon him, and his life shortened by unmerited disgrace and disappointment.

WE entered not the service upon these terms, nor with these expectations;—we are not, generally speaking, men of interest; —else we should not have preferred a service in which seniority gives command; —and it is an incontrovertable deduction of natural equity, that no power has a right to transfer either the men or officers to another service, without their acquiescence;—or without a necessity which cannot now be shewn, radically to alter that system upon the faith of the continuance of which they have expended their most valuable possession, —the flower of their youth.

THE Officers and men of the Company’s European Infantry, considered as loyal subjects, and as servants who have deserved well of the state, have a fair claim to the same honor

honors and indulgencies as those in the King's army. The period therefore of their first formation would have been the guide in numbering them, had unprejudiced and impartial justice been intended to be done.

THE Noble Marquis has overlooked or despised a difficulty, which would probably of itself defeat his plans, and which appears in all its magnitude to the author of the book known to be ministerial.

Vide "Review
of Plans for the
Government of
India," &c.

"How can the King's European regiments be augmented in India by this transfer of the Company's, without adding an unconstitutional weight to one of the branches of the legislature, by encreasing the standing army, and enlarging the sphere of ministerial patronage?" The author proposes that they should become provincial regiments unconnected with his Majesty's European establishment, whose *Officers* should rise exclusively in the European corps serving in India, partly by seniority, and partly by patronage of the Indian Commanders--and this proposition obviates the difficulty. *in so degree*

It may be a question, however, not readily solved---How far either the King's or Company's officers would wish, that all the troops now in India should coalesce in one body, admitting of mutual interchange, as is now the case in the Company's establishments, the presidencies being supposed to remain distinct as at present?---but of this there can scarce be a doubt, that such an union would be far preferable to the proposed transfer of the Company's European troops to his Majesty's service, and a separation of both from the Native establishment.

SHOULD

QUERY
III.

SHOULD the Officers of the European and Native troops, be in future entirely separated, and continue attached to the branch of the service in which they may be originally placed?

QUERY
IV.

Is to be separated---by what rules should the first appointments (and promotions if any) be made at the time of the new arrangement of the army?---Or, Officers to be put on the Supernumerary list, if there should be more than will be wanted for the establishment?---that is,---Whether by selection of the Commander in Chief, or the different Governments, or by giving an option to Officers under certain conditions?

QUERY
V.

Is the latter---What should the conditions be?

QUERY
VI.

Is the Officers in the two branches of the service are not to be separated---what rules should be proposed for the occasional interchange of Officers, which would obviate, on the one hand, the hazard of relaxation of the discipline in the European troops, by the Officers being restless, as at present, in their corps,

D

and

and consequently indifferent in a great degree about their condition; and on the other hand, to guard against the inconveniencies that might arise by the occasional introduction of Officers into the native corps, who are unacquainted with the customs of the natives, and the languages of the Country; adverting at the same time to the probability, that it may become an established rule to relieve the European corps frequently; and taking into consideration, whether it would be advisable, that Officers at the time of the relief of the Regiments to which they had originally belonged, should return from the native corps, and join the European corps, previous to its embarkation for England.

QUERY
VII.

Should it be thought expedient that such interchanges of Officers should take place, what general rules should be observed respecting promotions in the two branches of the service.

ANSWER,

It is a self evident proposition, that he who has not occasionally served with both the descriptions of men, of which the Armies in India are composed, European and Native, cannot be a finished Indian Officer;---and its truth has been as fully proved by experience, as it must have been originally apparent to the authors of the present system;---a system, which has been, at least hitherto, found equal to the conquest and retention of an Empire; and which, with some improvement, promises fair to ensure the stability of our power.

THE French the first of European powers that raised and disciplined corps of Sepoys, were never able to render them formidable, principally from their having wholly separated this line from the European; the consequence was, that the Officers in the native branch considering themselves as inferior soon lost that self-esteem which is the soul of a Military man, and became contemptible.

WHAT necessity has been shewn or can even be imagined for the proposed disorganization? Is it to allay the jealousies now supposed to subsist between the King's and Company's Officers, by transferring them under other names to other descriptions of men?---For who is so ignorant of human nature as to suppose, that classes of men so completely distinct, who must for ever meet, will not for ever jar! Will not the *esprit du corps*, inseparable from large bodies of men, insinuate itself into their minds even in the corps' formation?

THE consequence appears so obvious and inevitable, that the proposition must be imputed not to inadvertence, but design; and if so, cannot be too strongly reprobated:—the maxim of *divide and rule*, is not more true in despotic Civil Policy, than it is false in Military Government; to which division is destruction!--but, after confining us, by a refusal of furlough and emolument, so long in India, that the first and strongest of human affections, the *desiderium patriæ* is faded and nearly gone, they have now to take refuge in this weak substitute of *divided power and mutual jealousy* to insure our loyal attachment, (which has never wavered) and with it to the Crown of Great Britain its brightest jewel.

Appendix
[B]

OFFICERS are restless only because a higher Command is attached in a Native than in an European Battalion, to the same rank ; and because, tent-allowance is a convenience attendant on the one, and unwisely denied to the other---as was proved in the late war---when the Commander in Chief not only offered, but solicited, the Officers in the European Regiments to provide and carry their tents, on the same allowance as is usually made to those of the Native Corps:—let both be put upon the same footing in every respect, and the desire of change will want it's motive.

THE Company's Battalions of Infantry have been found equal to all the services that have been required of them, or have ever been performed in India, and on occasions when exposed to excessive heat and fatigue, preferable to the King's Regiments before they had been seasoned to the climate---those who served under Sir Eyre Coote, in the Campaigns against Hyder Ally and Tippoo Saib, were witnesses of the havoc which disease made among the Regiments which took the field soon after their landing;---When such destruction of the subjects of the state can be prevented, it is something worse than Impolicy not to obviate its effects.

IN the sixth Query it is stated as probable that, "Officers, " at the time of the relief of the Regiments to which they " originally belonged, should return from the Native Corps " and join the European Corps, previous to its embarkation for " Europe," this proposal seems rather a strange remedy for the restlessness complained of---the adoption of it would encrease the evil, by rendering Officers equally unsettled in the Native as the European Corps.

THE

THE supposition of putting upon the supernumerary list any of the Officers in this Army, all of whom have served so long and so well, is too strongly allied with injustice to be admitted even for argument.

QUERY
VIII.

THE total number of native troops, that may be necessary in future at the different Presidencies, for the security of the British Possessions, must depend upon contingencies;—but whether would it be more advisable, that the establishment should remain separate and distinct, as at present, and numbered from No. 1. at each Presidency; or that the native troops should become one general army, throughout the whole, from No. 1. and subject to be employed indiscriminately, at the different Presidencies, as circumstances may render expedient?

ANSWER

AN union of the three presidencies promises no advantage to the service in general, nor any fair one to the respective officers of each presidency in particular; it would but render the officers less acquainted with the language, manners, religion, and customs of the natives of their respective corps; who in Bengal and on the coasts of Coromandel and Malabar, are scarce less different from each other, than all are from Europeans; and in the adjustment of individual rank would create perhaps unsurmountable difficulties.

E

EVERY

EVERY Officer now in the Company's service commenced his career at a particular Presidency, and took, as was reasonable and inevitable, his chance of quick or slow promotion according to the casualties of his own establishment; these casualties of natural death, of actual service, and of encreased and diminished establishments, have made such an alteration in the general proportion of promotion, that he who went with General Goddard, an old Lieutenant to Bombay, would, in the event of an union of the Presidencies, find himself superceded by one whom he left a Cadet on that establishment;---the Bengal Officers, therefore, could never agree, nor would the liberality of the Officers of the other Presidencies wish, that all should be melted into one mass, mutually interchangeable, without first equalising the Rank of the Officers of each establishment, by a reference to their original appointments as Cadets; and the difficulties of such a reference, with its consequent effects, need not be pointed out.

THE Bengal Sepoys have marched without murmuring, and even embarked as Volunteers, to whatever place their services have been demanded; but would never be brought to acquiesce in a remote and total removal from their homes; or even a temporary one in times of peace, without an absolute and obvious necessity;--- nay it would be the height of impolicy, if it *could* be effected, to wean them entirely from their native countries of Behar, Oude and Allahabad;---for our possession of these countries ensures their fidelity, and is the only effectual preventative of desertion.

Appendix
[c]

SHOULD

QUERY
IX.

SHOULD the native troops remain, as at present, in separate Battalions, and formed into Brigades of four, five, or six Battalions each? or should they be formed in the first instance into Regiments of two, three, or four Battalions each?

ANSWER

THE native troops should continue divided into distinct corps, as at present,—but each corps commanded by a Colonel, or at least a Lieutenant Colonel, and instead of Battalion be denominated a Regiment; as in all other services.

THEY ought to be formed into brigades of three or four regiments, as is usual in the field.

THE proposition of forming a regiment of so unweildy a size as two, three, or four battalions of the present strength, is too monstrous for argument, and could only be meant to mutilate promotion.



QUERY
X.

Is they are not to be supplied with Officers from the European corps, nor any interchange of Officers allowed between the two branches of the service---how should the native corps be furnished with Officers?

ANSWER

ANSWERED partly in the answer to the third Article:--they can only be supplied as hitherto by cadets from Europe.

QUERY
XI.

What number of Officers would be necessary for each Battalion or Company, for all purposes of service?

ANSWER

As many as are now in an European corps of the same strength:--the European officers are the real strength of a native battalion; to endeavor to supply their present deficiency in number, by increasing that of the Serjeants, would be worse than useless---they must frequently be left unemployed, while the Sepoys are absent upon the many various duties which they take, and not being under that restraint which a liberal Education and a regard to his character lay upon a gentleman, they quickly contract habits of idleness and debauchery and are lost to the service.

SUBADARS

SUBADARS and Jemidars are out of the question for actual service, or even for parade duties;— they all have risen from the ranks, and live constantly among the Sepoys, to such of whom as may be of higher casts, they are obliged to pay deference; under these circumstances it is impossible that they should preserve the degree of respect necessary to give efficiency to their authority, nor are they in reality superior in any particular to privates of equal length of service.

THIS is intended to be noticed here rather as a subject which merits consideration and discussion, than as a measure recommended for final adoption.

BUT it may be of use to state, that the opinion is held by many judicious officers in the service, that it would be a wise and politic measure to permit the class of Native Officers gradually to become extinct; by not making any future promotions in this line: --Against this it may be objected, that it would take away from the natives a principal inducement for them to enter our service, and continue faithful while in it:— but this reasoning, however consonant to European ideas, does not appear to arise from an intimate acquaintance with the genius of the particular people in question, or the general modes of thinking in Asia---where both the climate and the nature of the government ever dispose those who have been born and educated under their influence, to confine their views to present advantages, disregarding such as are remote, and consequently doubtful:---not one Sepoy in a thousand enlists now in the hope of rising to the rank of an Officer; the motives which really actuate him, are the desire to save a sum of money out of his pay in the course of a few years, and to give his

his family a protector in the Company's service;--- an increase in the number of Havildars would compensate for the loss which the native soldiery might be thought to suffer from the measure here spoken of; or the rank of jemidar might be retained and the duty of it confined to carrying the Colours--- the proposed increase of European officers would provide for all the duties performed at present by the native;---and the outlines of such a regulation seem to have been traced by Lord Cornwallis himself, who has directed that all detachments of Thirty-four Sepoys sent upon service, should be entrusted to European officers only.

Appendix
[D]

INDEED it is fair to conclude, that nothing but the necessity of alluring men into the service upon any terms, while our empire was yet in its infancy, and the impossibility of procuring a sufficient number of respectable European officers, could have suggested the expedient of granting a commission to any Native of Hindostan; these native officers were the foremost in the dangerous mutinies which broke out on certain occasions during the war of 1778---83--- and as the circumstances which might once have justified their appointment have long ceased to exist, the eligibility of their gradual abolition appears to be worthy of serious deliberation.

THE impossibility of carrying into effect the order above alluded to which lord Cornwallis a very short time previous to his resignation of the government found it necessary issue, evinces clearly the deficiency of European officers on the present system, there being only sufficient posted to a battalion to take command of *half* the Men, according to the

the mode laid down in that order;--it is well known, that several corps during the late war in Myfore, had for a considerable time, through the events unavoidably attendant on hard service, not more than four, five, or six officers fit for duty, altho' each of them originally marched from Bengal with two above its stated compliment; and on some very arduous occasions, the vacant companies have been commanded in action by medical gentlemen or the staff serjeants.

Appendix
[E.]

Does it appear necessary that the Commanding Officer of each Battalion, should have an higher rank than that of a Captain?

INDISPENSIBLY necessary:--for the very same reason that he should have an higher Rank than that of an Ensign, --because it is not the Rank which is adequate and suitable to the command; a truth which requires no other proof than the uniform practice of those who have formed and constituted all the other armies in the world;--when no unfair interest was to be served, by withholding from the defenders of the state the rewards and honors which they have fairly purchased, by cheerfully encountering in its service the united Ills of Banishment, Hardships, and Danger.

Appendix
[F]

GENERAL Williamson, in his Military arrangements, a modern work of the first authority, says, that in an army there are but three descriptions of officers;--viz: *General, Field and Subaltern;*---

Page 61,
Vol. I.

Subaltern;---Captains of course, are included in the latter class, and as such being never put upon the General duties of the line they are debarred from the chief opportunities of acquiring reputation and its consequent advantages.

Is this the proper situation for a gentleman who by Twenty-five years of irreproachable service, in a foreign clime, has risen near the head of a great army and to the command of a Regiment?---and, is it from the pay and allowances of *this* Rank that he is to lay by a sufficiency wherewith to retire and spend the evening of his days in his Native land?--a purpose in which the members of this Government have publicly declared they would cheerfully cooperate.

Appendix
[C]

THE arguments advanced in answer to the foregoing query, will apply equally to the one we are at present considering, for the proper and complete Officering of the Sepoy Companies with Captains and Subalterns, virtually includes the giving to the commandant of the Battalion his due Rank of Colonel, or at least of Lieutenant Colonel, as he will have a Major under him.

AND from this point the Officers of the Bengal army, whether they may in future be denominated King's or Company's, can never recede, without sacrificing their just claims and being accessory to their own degradation.

Appendix
[H]

It

QUERY
XIII.

If the Native Infantry remain in single Battalions, formed into Brigades of two, three, or four Battalions, what Field Officers and Staff Officers should be allowed to each Brigade?

QUERY
XIV.

If they should be in Regiments of two, three, or four Battalions, what number of Field Officers and Staff Officers, should be allowed for each Regiment, or for a Brigade; when put into that form?

ANSWER

PARTLY answered in article the Ninth: the corps should not be formed into Regiments of two, three, or four Battalions,---but each of the present Battalions be called what it really is, a Regiment;---three of which, or at most four, should form a Brigade, as in the field; each Brigade, whether of Cavalry, Artillery, or Infantry, to be commanded by a General officer and Colonel;---The staff, a brigade Major and Aid-du-camp.

ADDITION
TO QUERY
XIV.

N. B.—In deciding upon the above questions, attention must be paid to the effect, that considerable promotions to the higher Military ranks in the Native branch of the service may have, not only upon the King's Troops now in India, but also upon the Officers who shall be fixed upon, to remain in the Company's European Troops, after they come into the King's service.

REMARK ON
N. B.

It is impossible to pass over without remark, this very curious "N. B."—which when considered with a small degree of attention, discovers plainly the spirit that really actuated the proposer of the Queries, and may serve as a clue to some of them, which might otherwise appear unaccountable: the author of the questions foresees, and apprehends the operation which right and reason would naturally have upon the mind of the person whom he consults; he attempts therefore to give it an unfair bias, and tacitly prescribes the kind of answer which he wishes for and expects:—In the conclusion, we may perceive the concealment of a spring, artfully calculated to disunite the company's Officers, by great seeming attention to the interests of a part.



SHOULD

QUERY
XV.

Should the Promotions of the Officers of European and Native Corps, continue separate at each Presidency,---or be general through India, even if the establishments should continue separate?

ANSWER

SEPARATE, --- for the reasons adduced in the Eighth article.

QUERY
XVI.

Should the Promotion be made in future by seniority, or by selection, under certain conditions---and if the latter, what restrictions would be advisable?

ANSWER

By seniority:--because upon the faith and confidence in the permanency of this system, we entered a service, whose basis is promotion according to seniority,---Its radical merit and superior fitness for the army in India, is indisputably proved by the universal attachment to it, which has been shewn on all occasions by those concerned or who have been consulted, whether here or at home.

N. B.--

N. B.---It is supposed that it may be thought advisable, to allow Colonels, either for Regiments, of two, three, or four Brigades;---and that those Colonels, and the Colonels of European Regiments, will be promoted in their turn to the rank of General Officers;---in that case---

QUERY
XVII.

Should a limited number only of Colonels, or General Officers be employed on the Staff at each Presidency?---and if so---

ANSWER

It is not easy to conceive how an unlimited number can be employed.

QUERY
XVIII

What number would be sufficient?

ANSWER

This must depend upon the nature of the service expected from them.

Should

QUERY
XIX.

Should they be employed by turn---or selection?

ANSWER

IN turn,---except upon extraordinary occasions, when selection cannot be refused without danger,--- and the destruction of responsibility.

QUERY
XX.

Should any distinction be made in employing a certain number of Colonels, or General Officers, by turn or by selection, between those that are in the European, and those that are in the Native line of the service?— and if so—what proportion should be observed?

ANSWER

No distinction, ---for reasons adduced in the preceding, and in the third article.

QUERY
XXI.

Should the staff officers be on the strength of corps, or be effective staff?

N. B. — It is supposed, that the principal staff officers, such as Adjutants and Quarter Master Generals, and their Deputies, may with propriety be selected from any branch of the service;—but

ANSWER

THE staff Officers should be effective:

H

SHOULD

QUERY
XXII.

SHOULD the selection of Aid-de-Camps, Majors of brigade, and Adjutants, and Quarter Masters of brigade, be confined to the branch of the service, to which those officers are to be attached when appointed.

ANSWER

Yes?

QUERY
XXIII.

SHOULD Fort Majors, Adjutants, Judge Advocates, Barrack Masters, Officers of Guides, Officers of Pioneers, &c, be selected from the different branches of the service indiscriminately?

ANSWER

Yes?

QUERY
XXIV.

SHOULD Commissaries of Ordnance and Stores, be selected from the Artillery only?

ANSWER

CERTAINLY,---because fatal mistakes have occurred and may again occur from the unacquaintance of other Officers with Ordnance and Stores.

Would

QUERY
XXV.

Would it be expedient to appoint some European officers to the corps of Lascars?---if so, what would be the proportions ---and should they be officers of Artillery.

ANSWER

THEY are already Officered, and properly Officered, by being attached in certain proportions to the respective Companies of Artillery.

QUERY
XXVI.

If a certain number of Officers, be allowed to be absent, from each corps in European, for limited periods, what should the proportion be, and for what periods?

ANSWER

ONE Third,--- for three years; which, when one year passes in the voyages to and from Europe, can scarcely be thought too long a period of furlough;---Two-thirds of the *proposed* establishment will be sufficient for all duties, required in time of peace:---those who return to Europe, will not be useless,---they may raise, discipline, and bring back recruits.---It is on all hands agreed that the present restrictions on the Company's recruiting must be removed, and that their Officers must be permitted to recruit as freely, and in the same manner as his Majesty's.

SHOULD

QUERY
XXVII.

Should Officers belonging to corps, receive the whole, or if not, what part of their pay (Batta and extra allowances are supposed to be out of the question) should they receive during their absence in Europe?

ANSWER

DOUBTLESS their full pay;--- for why should the receive, or how can they support equal dignity upon, less than his Majesty's Officers?

QUERY
XXVIII.

In order to enable an Officer in the Sepoy line, (who it is supposed cannot have a chance in common with the Officers in European corps, of going home by being relieved) to retire from the service and return to Europe;---would it be advisable to allow them to sell their commissions at fixed prices, after serving certain period of years?----or instead of that indulgence, would it be more advisable to give them full pay, or certain pensions payable in England, under certain conditions that might be specified?



ANSWER

THE obstacles to relieving the European corps from home, are so numerous and important, that no argument can be founded on that supposition,-- their Officers therefore should be included in any arrangement made to enable the Sepoy Officers to retire from the service;---and the best mode of doing this appears to be, by granting pensions proportioned to length of service.

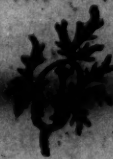
THE amount and conditions of these pensions payable in England, and secured by an act of the legislature, may be as follows.

Every Officer retiring after 15 Years service, to receive 200 £. per Ann.

— 18	300 . . —
— 21	400 . . —
— 23	500 . . —
— 25	600 . . —
— 27	800 . . —
— 30	1000 . . —

YEARS intervening between the abovementioned terms, to be proportionally calculated and allowed for.

THE sale of commissions would be an utter subversion of the ruling principle of the service-- rise by seniority, and is for many other reasons inadmissible.



QUERY
XXIX.

It is to be supposed that the allowances of Field Officers, and Officers commanding Native battalions (let their ranks be what it may) will be liberal; and would it not be proper at the time that the Company's army becomes King's Troops, to declare, that according to the established custom of his Majesty's service, no Officer under the rank of Colonel, is in future to share in the Off-reckoning Fund, or to derive any advantage from the Cloathing of the Army.

ANSWER

EVERY Commanding Officer of corps (his rank being always supposed the same as is attached to a correspondent command in the King's service) should clothe his own Regiment, and receive the fair perquisites attending on his situation, in the same manner as in the Royal army----and indeed the principle here laid down by Lord Cornwallis of " proceeding according to the established custom of his Majesty's army, " should be indiscriminately applied to the organization of our army in every instance.

QUERY
XXX.

Would it be advisable that the public should, after the perquisites upon Cloathing shall be withdrawn from the subordinate ranks, to provide Cloathing for the whole of the troops in India, by contract in India, and pay all Colonels, whether in the European or in the Native line, a certain sum annually, either in England or in India, in lieu of the perquisite.

ANSWERED in the foregoing article.

EXCLUSIVE

QUERY
XXXI.

EXCLUSIVE of the above perquisite, what should the allowances of Colonels, or Major Generals (having Regiments in India) be, in the following situations, viz.

1st.—*WHEN employed on the staff.*

2d.—*WHEN residing in England.*

3d.—*WHEN residing in India, and not on the staff?*

ANSWER

THE allowances to General Officers and Colonels, when employed on the Staff, ought to be very liberal, equal at least to the salaries drawn by the President, and Members of the board of Trade and Revenue, with the addition of an allowance for a table, which Officers of that rank, commanding stations or detachments, must necessarily keep;---general Officers and Colonels ought to reside in England only on furlough with the pay of Colonel---during their absence the Officers next in seniority should perform their duties, and receive all their allowances, except their pay as Colonels.

It is to be presumed, that, on the new arrangements taking place, no more general Officers or Colonels will be allowed than are requisite for the service;---those therefore who may be in India, after that period unemployed, can only have been placed in that situation by a possible reduction of the army:---in that case they should succeed to vacancies, as has hitherto been the case with Supernumerary Officers; and, in the interim, be allowed their pay and half the other allowances of their rank.

SHOULD

QUERY
XXXII. *SHOULD the allowances of Colonels in the European line, during the time that their Regiments are in India, and of Colonels in the Sepoy line, be exactly the same?*

ANSWER EXACTLY---when all distinctions are abrogated, all jealousies will cease.

QUERY
XXXIII. *SHOULD double full Batta be abolished every where?*

ANSWER THIS is best answered by the well known fact, that even this allowance was not equal to the expences that were unavoidably incurred by Officers on service in the last war; when Camels the necessary conveyance for their tents, sold at Madras from 6 to 1200 rupees each, and the wages of all descriptions of servants was proportionably enormous.

At Cawnpore, Futtu Ghur, and Anopsheher, the Company allows a large establishment of water-men and tatties for the private soldiers; notwithstanding which, it is not unusual for a weak battalion of Europeans, in the upper Provinces, to lose *seventy* or *eighty* men by deaths in a ~~last~~ season;--because even the above extra accommodation is not sufficient to guard them against the inclemency of a climate intensely hot. The Officers on the present allowances are enabled to preserve their health; but to deprive them of the means of providing comfortable habitations, food, and liquors of a good kind, with the additional servants necessary, would be to ensure the destruction of their health--probably of their lives.--Has the adviser of the above measure ever passed an hot or cold season, in the upper country?---or did the Officers of his Majesty's 73d Regiment find the double full batta more than adequate to their increased expences.

Appendix
[K]

SHOULD

QUERY
XXXIV.

Should pay and allowances of the corresponding ranks in the European and native line, respectively, be equal at all the presidencies?

ANSWER

THEY should; and it will give the Bengal Officers the highest satisfaction to see their brother Officers at Madras and Bombay, put upon the same allowances as themselves.

QUERY
XXXV.

Should Bazar duties be abolished every where, except on spirits and intoxicating drugs?

ANSWER

THIS is a question as much of Civil as of Military policy.

QUERY
XXXVI.

Would it be advisable in fixing the allowances of all the Officers above the rank of Captain, to make an addition to their monthly income, to compensate for the article of commission, upon the revenues, and to abolish so unusual a term of Emolument for Officers?

ANSWER THE revenue money is so honorable to the givers and receivers; that it may perhaps be better to continue the allowance under the present term:---Lord Clive, sensible that the Company was indebted to the skill and gallantry of their Officers for the territories and revenue they possess, directed that a commission upon those revenues should be divided among them;---THE Honorable Company have, as a mark of gratitude, continued it.

QUERY
XXXVII.

Would it be advisable to consolidate, &c. present allowances, under the various heads of pay, &c. into two denominations, only, viz. pay and Batta?

ANSWER

It would tend to simplify bills and accounts.

QUERY
XXXVIII.

As the whole Army must be paid from the Resources of India, would it be advisable that the payment's should be made by the Company's Paymasters, that all the accounts should be audited by the Company's Auditors, and that the Troops should be mustered by the Company's Muster-masters?

ANSWER

It is a matter of little moment by whom the Troops are mustered; but the Paymasters should be Company's Military Officers, *as in his Majesty's service.*

QUERY
XXXIX.

What should be the establishment of Officers for the Native Cavalry?

QUERY
XL.

In case of the separation of the Officers of the European and Native Troops---should the Cavalry Officers be separated from the Officers of the Native Infantry, and their Promotion confined to the Cavalry, or should they be blended with the general Native establishment?

QUERY
XLI.

In case no separation should take place between the Officers of the European and Native Cavalry---should the Cavalry Officers be considered as in the same state of general union, and mutual interchanges permitted between them, and the other branches of the service---or should the promotion of the Officers of the Cavalry be confined to their own line, and the Officers of the Infantry not allowed to interfere with them?

ANSWER

THE same number of Officers should be appointed to the Company's as are allowed to his Majesty's Cavalry, as it is self-evident, that corps of native troops require to be as completely officered as Europeans---whenever the necessary and indispensable augmentation of Cavalry shall take place, to the amount of six Regiments, (or more,) of six troops each---the Officers should in the first instance, be selected from all the branches of the service, indiscriminately, according to their respective qualifications---after which, they should rise in their own corps exclusively;--- if the Cavalry be officered like the Infantry---a Regiment of the one, like a Regiment of the other---a troop like a Company;---the future promotion of the two lines will run so parallel and fair, that no just cause of jealousy between the different branches of the service can arise.

WHAT

QUERY
XLII.

What rules should be laid down for recruiting the Native Corps; for supplying them with half mounting, and for providing for them when disabled by Wounds, or other accidents, or when worn out by long service?

ANSWER

THE present mode of recruiting the Native corps, is proved by experience to be fully adequate to its end---the men should supply themselves with half mounting, under the inspection of their Officers;---the present Invalid regulations for the Natives are sufficient for all purposes of utility; but those for the European Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates are unjustifiably harsh and severe.

Appendix
[L]

QUERY
XLIII.

Upon the supposition that the European and Native lines of the service, will either be entirely separated, or that many interchanges of Officers cannot take place between them---what general suggestions occur for obviating the pernicious effects of the jealousies which it is apprehended might arise from temporary inequalities in promotions or other causes---for entirely preventing misunderstandings, and for promoting union and harmony between the two Branches of the service.

THE

ANSWER

THE principle of entire separation of the European and Native lines, has been considered at large in the general answer to the third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh articles.

THE much to be desired objects of removing discontent, guarding against jealousies, and preventing Officers from being restless in their corps, can we think be attained perfectly by no other means than those which we have already pointed out, and may here recapitulate;---the putting all the Company's troops whether European or Native, on precisely the same establishment in point of Officers as his Majesty's corps---the appointment of General Officers---Furlough on full pay---the establishments of the three Presidencies to remain distinct;---no corps whatever in the Indian army to be considered as liable to be sent to Europe by relief---nor any kind of supercession, whether by exchange, appointment, or otherwise---but that the youngest Officer may rise by seniority to the highest rank.



L

N. B.

CLOSE
OF THE
QUERIES.

N. B. FURTHER suggestions and opinions will be very acceptable upon every other point that may occur, as deserving of consideration, in addition to the heads above mentioned.

It is likewise requested, that reasons may be assigned for the opinions that may be given on the different points, and that such comparative statements may be annexed, as may be necessary for the explanation of opinions, and for shewing the effects, either with regard to the number of men, or to the expence, that would attend the adoption of any of the alterations that may be proposed in the present establishments.

CONCLUSION.

UPON the proposed increase of European officers in the Sepoy corps, which is the most material improvement of the present system, suggested in the preceding observations, it may not be amiss to offer a few additional remarks and reflections, --- and to draw the public attention to some facts connected with the subject which may not be generally known.

THE first consideration that naturally occurs is, "at what time, and thro' what circumstances was originally adopted the mode which yet exists of officering the native troops on a scale so far inferior to that of all other armies, both in point of rank and number?"

W E

WE are unable to trace the Bengal Establishment farther back than July 1764, the date of the oldest list of this Army that we can procure; at which period there were but three Officers, viz.---a Captain and two Subalterns to a battalion of Sepoys, and the total abstract of Infantry Officers stood thus---Three Majors, Thirty Captains, Thirty-nine Lieutenants, and Twenty-seven Ensigns; --- from which it appears that the senior Captain had but three officers superior to him in the Army; nor was his rank unsuitable to his length of service, it being generally attained in four or five years; whereas, at the time we are writing, the youngest Captain at the head of a battalion has served twenty-five years, and supposing it were possible for the present system to continue, he would still be a Captain seven years hence, upon two hundred and forty rupees per mensem, --- *after thirty two years of foreign service.*

IN 1764 there were three Officers in a Native Corps--- in 1794 there are nine: According to what rule has this increase been made? By multiplying the Subalterns four-fold, without adding an unit to the Captains, to preserve in any degree the original just proportion between these ranks--- The consequence of this absurdity has already been to detain deserving officers above twenty years in the Subaltern line, and if persevered in, the majority of the present Lieutenants, who, after serving from twelve to fifteen years *are yet low in the list*, may possibly be promoted in sixteen or eighteen more.

IN the event of the adoption of every alteration proposed in these sheets, the consequent promotion will not advance to the rank of Major any Officer under twenty years standing, nor to that of Captain, any who will not have served from twelve to thirteen years.

WHAT

WHAT has been now stated refers only to the justice which is due to the Company's army,--- but should the political necessity of strengthening our Sepoy battalions with additional officers be questioned, and the reasoning adduced in the answer to the eleventh Query, with the concurring testimony of facts, not be deemed conclusive, the existence of it will be sufficiently demonstrated by calling to mind and reflecting upon, the great change of circumstances which the lapse of Thirty years has occasioned.

THE detachment under Colonel Floyd, at Sattimungalum, with all its gallantry and high state of discipline, found great difficulty in making good its retreat from a part of Tippoo's army, although Lord Clive at Plassey had, with a force not superior to it, achieved the conquest of a rich and extensive Kingdom.

WE cannot reasonably presume, that the Native powers will desist suddenly in the midst of their alarming improvement in the Military art; nor can we form a just idea to what a pitch it is already carried; we have not yet seen in hostility the *twenty-four* disciplined battalions officered by Europeans, which Scindeah has left ready for action, and which are now most probably at the devotion of their active and enterprising General, who has heretofore served in the Company's Armies. Granting the supposition, that our forces are sufficient for the protection of our dominions

against

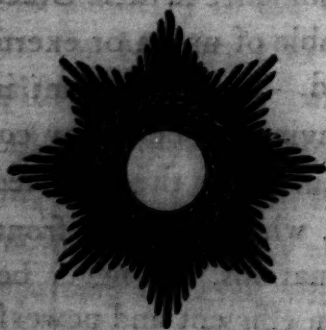
against the states that border on them, are we certain that the hardy northern nations will never lay aside their dissensions and pour down upon Hindostan with their myriads of Cavalry, as they have often threatened? We may not on a future emergency have the assistance of powerful allies, as in the late contest, but on the contrary, the English may again become the object of a general conspiracy, similar to that which aimed at our total expulsion from India, in the year 1778.

In the event of a long and arduous war, it is upon our Native Troops that we must ultimately rely; as the finest corps of Europeans are infallibly ruined by two or three severe Campaigns in India;---the recommended measure of posting to the Sepoys their proper complement of European Officers, will render them truly formidable to our enemies, and safer with regard to ourselves; for they will gradually place their entire confidence in these Officers, and look upon themselves as incapable of union or exertion, except when under their command. The consequent increase of expence cannot, we are convinced, bear any comparison with the benefits that will result from the proposed alteration; a rich and fruitful Empire, whose extensive frontier is bordered by restless and warlike nations, can never be retained in a state of security but by an efficient and powerful Army; nor can any military force deserve this title without being well paid, well officered, and properly organized in all its parts.

M

We

We feel a lively satisfaction in observing that the present favorable concurrence of circumstances gives good reason to expect the early accomplishment of a full and final Military arrangement, which may include the concession of every object that can in moderation and propriety be desired --- more we have never wished for: the Officers of the army universally understand the justice and the extent of their Claims; and they have stated them with due deference, yet explicitly and clearly;---they trust that their meritorious services, and their unshaken loyalty to the parent state, under a long continuance of discouraging circumstances, will procure them a fair hearing and impartial decision; and they consider as sure pledges of their ultimate success, the virtues of the head and heart so conspicuous in the amiable and eminent character, who now holds the reins of the Supreme Government.



The Appendix.

[A]

IN May 1782, his Majesty's 78th Regiment marched seven hundred strong from Madras to Chingleput (thirty-five miles) where it joined the Army, this Corps before the end of June, had not above an hundred men fit for duty, although it ~~lost none~~ in action.

A

[B]

" G. O. BY EARL CORNWALLIS.

" HEAD QUARTERS—Camp at Turromallysagum, 31st May, 1791.

" THE great deficiency of Bullocks which has been experienced for a very considerable time by every corps and department of the Army, and the serious injury which has been thereby occasioned to the public service, renders it peculiarly necessary at this time to endeavor to obtain by every means possible, a supply of cattle to answer the exigencies of the service, exclusive of those that the Bullock Contractors furnish; Lord Cornwallis has therefore judged it expedient, not only to establish an agent to procure Bullocks, and to have the charge of the part of those he may be able to provide, but has also conceived that it may prove a very useful measure by augmenting still further the channel thro' which Cattle may be supplied, if all the Camp equipage of the army, the tents for the non-commissioned officers and privates of European corps excepted, and all the Regimental stores attached to the Native corps, should in future be transported by means of carriage to be provided by individuals, on their being allowed a certain reasonable sum monthly for that expence and risk. "

N

" THE

" THE new arrangement relative to Camp-equipage and the carriage of the Regimental Stores of Native corps, which is now offered for the consideration of the army is to be regulated as follows,

" Each officer is to be at the expence of providing, carrying and pitching his own tent; beside which, officers commanding the Native Corps are to be at the expence of providing, carrying and pitching the tents for their Serjeants, for the Natives of their corps, and the Hospital tents."

" *As it is the intention of the Commander in Chief, that these regulations should be optional, officers commanding corps are to report to the Adjutant General, for themselves and corps, whether or not they are inclined to enter upon the proposed arrangement, and from what date. Individuals not doing duty with corps to report for themselves.*" The Commander in Chief will not require uniformity in the construction and size of the tents, but expects that officers and men shall be sufficiently covered from the inclemency of the weather as far as is practicable."

" HEAD QUARTERS—Camp at Sindicoopan, 10th July, 1791.

" IT being of great importance to the convenience and benefit of the public service, that every encouragement should be given to the Commanding Officers of Native Corps, to induce them to engage for the provision of carriage, and pitching of the Camp equipage of their corps, the tents of the Subalterns excepted, and for the carriage of their Regimental Stores; and it having been represented to the Commander in Chief, that the allowances offered for those purposes by the G. O. of the 31st May last, is found by experience to be inadequate to the expence and risk which attends the undertaking, and as the Commander in Chief can never wish an officer to lose or suffer inconvenience on account of his readiness to assist the service, he has thought it proper to augment the proposed allowance to the Commanding officers of Native Infantry corps, from 120 to 200 Pagodas per month, to the Commanding Officers Native Cavalry corps from 100 to 165 Pagodas per month. The Commander in Chief trusts, that upon an allowance thought so ample, every probability of loss to those who engage in it will be removed; and with the means of providing so well for the convenience of the corps and for the carriage of the public stores, all officers who can procure the carriage will be desirous of engaging. The Commander in Chief directs the augmented allowance to be paid for the time past to those officers who have already engaged for their corps, and thinks himself obliged to them for having given the former offer a trial, which has enabled him to judge in some measure of the propriety of encreasing it."

[C]

[C]

At the close of the late War it was much desired, that a body of Bengal lascars should be permanently attached to the Coast Artillery. Lord Cornwallis directed Col. Duff to give every possible encouragement to the design, and Col. Geils's people were countenanced in their efforts to engage the lascars of the Bengal detachment for this service. Yet they never could persuade even ten of that numerous body to accept the alluring offers that were held out,

It is well known that none of the Bengal sepoy's could be prevailed upon, to enter into the Madras battalions, altho' the pay of the sepoy's there is higher than in Bengal, and to this was added the strong inducement of quick promotion.

[D]

" G. O. BY EARL CORNWALLIS, 8th May 1789.

" THE Commander in Chief thinks it proper to direct, that when a detachment of Native Infantry is sent out of the strength of fifty men or upward, with a probability of using their Arms, the charge therefore is to be committed to an European Officer. "

" G. O. BY THE MARQUIS CORNWALLIS, 24th May 93.

" THE Commander in Chief having reason to suppose, that the General Orders of the 8th of May 1789, " directing that when a detachment of Native Infantry is sent out of the strength of fifty men or upward, with a probability of using their Arms, the charge thereof is to be committed to an European Officer, " ---have been deviated from in some instances, he thinks it proper to order, that Subaltern Officers shall be sent on Command with all detachments of Native Infantry exceeding in number half a Company, whether such Detachments be composed of men of different Companies or not. Commanding Officers of Sepoy battalions are enjoined to pay strict attention to this regulation, and to carry it into immediate effect, by detaching to take the Command of Posts; where there happens to be Detachments of the above strength without European Officers. "

[E]

[E]

ONE of these instances occurred in a Bengal battalion of the Centre Column under Lord Cornwallis, at the attack of the lines of Seringapatam, on the 6th February, 1792.



[F]

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the NUMBER and RANK of Officers,
attached to Corps of Infantry in the KING's and COMPANY's Service,
March 1794.

IN the 81 Regiments or Battalions of the British Infantry—the First Regiment having an additional Battalion, and the 60th Regiment three, with each its Colonel, there are
COLONELS 81 . . of which . 78 are General Officers,
LIEUT. COLONELS . 81 7 . . General Officers and 23 Colonels in the Army
MAJORS 81 15 . . Lieut. Colonels in the Army.
CAPTAINS 657 . . — { . 1 is a Colonel, 8 are Lieut. Colonels, and 51 are
SUBALTERNs . . . 1656 Majors in the Army.
2556

The Army Rank of these Officers therefore
is as follows:—

GENERAL OFFICERS 85
COLONELS 27
LIEUT. COLONELS 74
MAJORS 117
CAPTAINS 597
SUBALTERNs 1656

Total Officers, ... 2556 to 36,540 Men.

or,

1 Officer to 14 Men and nearly 1-4th.

Number and Army Rank of the Officers
in the 42 Bengal Battalions:—

COLONELS 5
LIEUT. COLONELS 12
MAJORS 37 [5 command Battalions]
CAPTAINS 79
SUBALTERNs 432

Total Officers 546 to 26,208 Men.

or

1 Officer to 48 Men.

KING'S SERVICE.

1 CAPTAIN to 61 Men
1 GENERAL or FIELD OFFICER to 121 Men
2 1/2 SUBALTERNs to 1 Captain

COMPANY'S SERVICE.

1 CAPTAIN to 33 1/2 Men
1 FIELD OFFICER 750 Men
5 1/2 SUBALTERNs 1 Captain

PROPORTION of Subalterns and Captains taken together to the superior ranks in the King's service 5 1/2 to 1—In the Company's 12 1/2 to 1.

IN the King's 81 battalion of Infantry there is a General officer to every 430 men.

IN the Company's 95 battalions of Infantry, there is not one General officer to 59,180 men,—the strength of the establishments at the three presidencies.

THE comparison is made with the marching regiments, were the Guards included the disproportion of rank would be still more enormous; all the Lieutenants in these corps, having the rank of Captain, and all the Captains that of Lieut. Colonel in the army.

SEVENTY-TWO of the King's regiments are calculated at their peace establishment of 420 men each, and the nine in India at 700 men each. The Company's corps also are taken at their peace establishment. The number and rank of the officers in his Majesty's regiments are extracted from the list published at the War Office, 12th February, 1793.

According to this list, the Number of General and Field Officers is as follows:

GENERALS 19
LIEUT. GENERALS 63
MAJOR GENERALS 27

Total General Officer, 109

611

Total General and Field Officers, 770

COLONELS 109
LIEUT. COLONELS 224
MAJORS 284

Field Officers, 611

[G]

G. O. BY EARL CORNWALLIS, 7th May, 1788

[Arguments extracted from the Governor General's Minute,]

" OUR territorial possessions in India have been acquired by zeal and abilities that have done honor to the British Name; but, whatever laws or regulations may be established for the Civil Government, it is evident that the permanent security of those dominions must ultimately depend on a respectable military establishment.

" THE duty we owe to our Country and Constituents, necessarily calls for the attention of this Government to the improvement of their Military System; and as the responsibility of this duty may be presumed to rest more immediately with the Commander in Chief, some remarks and proposition, that have this object in view have been submitted by him to the board,

" AN argument formed upon these principles will relieve the officers at the different stations where Bazaars are now established, from the painful reflection of levying unauthorised duties; it will give a sanction to these emoluments which are justly due to length of service; in an unfavourable climate; and enable the officers receiving them to retire to their native country and pass the latter part of their lives with satisfaction, in the enjoyment of competency fairly earned and sanctioned by legal authority; *this is an object that every Government ought to provide for, and in which every Member of this Government will readily concur,*

" THE system of discipline in the army ought to originate from our European regiments, and they should be placed in as high a point of estimation as possible, and be considered as the nurseries of instruction to qualify officers and non-commissioned officers for establishing it amongst the native troops."

[H]

[H]

" ACQUAINTED as we are with the mild and equitable spirit of the British Constitution, which extends its influence though all those who govern under it, we rest assured, that to procure redress of the grievances which we have represented, nothing more is requisite than to point out the sources of them. They arise from inherent and radical defects in the plan of your establishments, and cannot be removed but by a new formation of them upon the plain and obvious principle which has been the rule for organizing every other Army in the world----*That Rank shall be adequate and proportionate to Command and Responsibility.*"

[SEE ADDRESS FROM THE
PUTTYGHUR and BERHAMPORE.
Stations—February 7, 1793.]

[K]

THE expence of a private European soldier in the Vizier's provinces is found to be equal to the pay of a Subaltern officer in England. The expence of the officer stationed in these remote countries is unavoidably increased in the same proportion.



[L]

[L]

" Minutes of Council in the Secret and Seperate Department, on the 9th May, 1788.

" EUROPEAN INVALIDS.

" **RESOLVED** and Ordered, that no European Non-commissioned Officer shall be hereafter transferred to the Invalid establishment, but upon the Invalid pay of privates, nor shall any of the Europeans of the above description, who are now upon the Invalid list, be entitled to more after the 30th of November next, if they are indulged with the permission of remaining in the Country."

No exception is made, even in favour of those Non-commissioned Officers who may have lost their limbs on actual Service---their misfortunes are embittered by the reflection, that in suffering for their Country they have secured nothing for themselves but degradation and indigence;---humanity and justice would dictate rather an increase than a diminution of their stipend.



